

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-07

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ADP-00 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03 L-02 DPW-01

IO-03 PRS-01 EUR-10 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 RSR-01 /064 W  
----- 036714

R 090357Z JUL 73  
FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4276  
INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L S A I G O N 1 2 2 5 6

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON INFO DAO SAIGON, SSAG  
NAKHON PHANOM FROM CAN THO JUL 7 BEING REPEATED TO YOU

QUOTE  
CAN THO 0550

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: MARR, MOPS, CA, HU, ID, PL, VS  
SUBJECT: WEEKLY SITREP FOR JULY 1-7, 1973

SUMMARY: THE DELTA WAS RELATIVELY TRANQUIL LAST WEEK, BUT MR IV  
BRIEFING FIGURES OBSCURE THE REAL COMBAT SITUATION. A FULL ICCS  
TEAM FINALLY DEPLOYED TO HONG NGU. MR IV DISMANTLED THE SITZ IN  
BA XUYEN AND BAC LIEU.

### 1. SECURITY SITUATION:

A. MILITARY ACTIVITY DECLINED DRAMATICALLY IN THE DELTA  
DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF JULY. AFTER SPIRITED FIGHTING OVER THE  
WEEKEND OF JUNE 30-JULY 1, WITH 42 INCIDENTS REPORTED SUNDAY,  
JULY 1, THE NUMBER OF ALLEGED VC CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS REPORTED BY  
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MR IV DROPPED TO A DAILY AVERAGE OF 25 DURING THE FIRST WEEK OF

JULY. JULY 5 SAW A RECORD LOW OF ONLY 12 VIOLATIONS REPORTED.

B. WHILE THE LEVEL OF FIGHTING IN THE DELTA HAS UNDENIABLY DROPPED SINCE THE ADVENT OF CEASEFIRE II, AND ESPECIALLY IN THE PAST WEEK, THE REPORTED INCIDENTS AND CASUALTIES FROM MR IV DO NOT TELL THE COMPLETE TALE. WE ARE CONSTANTLY REMINDED, THROUGH THE REPORTS FROM OUR VICE CONSULS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES IN THE PROVINCES, OF THE ECCENTRICITIES OF MR IV BOOKKEEPING. BOOBY TRAPS, MORTARINGS, HARASSMENTS, INFILTRATIONS, KIDNAPPINGS, ASSASSINATIONS, AND RVNAF SECURITY PATROLS CONTINUE TO TAKE A TOLL HIGHER THAN THAT REPORTED IN THE DAILY MR IV BRIEFINGS. THE NUMBER AND RESULTS OF ARVN "SECURITY OPERATIONS" ARE NO LONGER REVEALED IN THE DAILY BRIEFINGS. WE WISH TO UNDERLINE THE FACT THAT THESE REGION-LEVEL FIGURES PROVIDED BY THE GVN ILLUSTRATE MILITARY TRENDS, BUT THEY ARE NOT AN ACCURATE ACCOUNT OF DELTA MILITARY ACTIVITY.

2. ICCS:

A. REGION VI AND VII ICCS TEAMS CONTINUED TO WORK, WITH THE USUAL LACK OF AFFIRMATIVE RESULTS. THE CANADIANS PUSHED INQUIRIES INTO ALLEGED CEASEFIRE VIOLATIONS, BUT INDICATED THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN INVESTIGATIONS AFTER JULY 19. THEY PLAN TO DEPART FROM CAN THO AND MY THO PREPARATORY TO LEAVING VIETNAM JULY 25 OR 26. THE INDONESIANS DID LITTLE, A FACT THAT BODES ILL FOR THE ARRIVAL OF A NEW INEXPERIENCED INDONESIAN TEAM IN LATE JULY OR EARLY AUGUST. THE POLES AND HUNGARIANS BIDED THEIR TIME.

B. REGION VI INDONESIAN, POLISH, AND HUNGARIAN TEAMS DEPLOYED JULY 2 IN HONG NGU DISTRICT TOWN, KIEN PHONG PROVINCE. THE CANADIANS HAD GONE UP JUNE 16, BUT THE OTHERS HAD DECLINED TO FOLLOW UNTIL SOME ARTILLERY PIECES WERE REMOVED FROM A SITE NEAR THE ICCS COMPOUND, THE OFFENDING GUNDS WERE PULLED OUT AND SENT TO CAO LANH.

3. GVN ACTIVITIES:

MR IV COMMANDER MGEN NGUYEN VINH NGHI HAS ORDERED THE DISMANTLING OF THE SPECIAL INTERPROVINCIAL TACTICAL ZONE (SITZ).  
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THE SITZ WAS A SPECIAL AREA OF OPERATIONS CREATED APRIL 10 TO FACILITATE THE CLEANING OUT OF THE VC IN AREAS OF BA XUYEN AND BAC LIEU ASTRIDE THE MY THANH RIVER. NGHI, POSSIBLY BOWING TO THE RELUCTANCE OF THE TWO PROVINCE CHIEFS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE OPERATION, DECIDED TO KILL THE SITZ WITH THE VC STILL IN CONTROL OF SOME AREAS, ESPECIALLY IN BAC LIEU'S VINH CHAU DISTRICT.  
LEHMANN

UNQUOTE.  
WHITEHOUSE

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NNN

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